

REMARKS

Applicants amend claim 9 by deleting "the" from "the organism."

The Examiner stated that claim 9 is vague and indefinite in lacking a step that clearly relates back to the preamble. As suggested by the Examiner, applicants amend claim 9 to recite "thereby producing uracil-auxotrophic microorganisms."

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0345. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

KEIL & WEINKAUF



Daniel S. Kim
Reg. No. 51877

1350 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202)659-0100

DSK/kas

MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

9. (currently amended) A process for producing uracil-auxotrophic microorganisms, which comprises modifying an orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase gene having the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs as claimed in claim 1 in such a way that the protein encoded by the gene is inactive, and introducing this modified gene into the microorganisms and integrating said gene by homologous recombination into the genome of the organisms, and subsequently selecting these microorganisms for resistance to 5-fluoroorotic acid thereby producing uracil-auxotrophic microorganisms.